

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-03

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /004 R

66605

DRAFTED BY: EB/OFD/FFD-ARIMAS

APPROVED BY: EB/OFD/FFD-CRCAVANAUGH

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R 302042Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS STATE 149394

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO LAGOS FROM ACCRA JUL 11
REPEATED YOU:

QUOTE

UNCLAS ACCRA 4376

LAGOS FOR AGATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, GH

SUBJ: GHANA'S WHEAT IMPORT STATISTICS

REF: STATE 122804, STATE 128067

1. ANALYSIS INDICATED GHANA'S OFFICIAL IMPORT STATISTICS
COMPLETELY INACCURATE CONCERNING TOTAL WHEAT IMPORTS AND SINCE
DO NOT DIFFERENTIATE CONCESSIONAL AND COMMERCIAL
PROCUREMENT ARE
UNSUITABLE STR DEVELOPING INFORMATION REQUESTED REFTEL.

2. DISCUSSIONS WITH IMPORTERS AND CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSION
OFFICIALS AND REVIEW OF COMPLIANCE REPORTS WHICH ARE ACCURATE
ENABLE US PRESENT FOLLOWING TABLE FY 69 THRU FY 73.

3. GHANA WHEAT/FLOUR COMMERCIAL IMPORTS (METRIC TONS)
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	FLOUR AS WHEAT	TOTAL WHEAT PLUS	
FY	WHEAT	FLOUR	EQUIVALENT (X 1.37) FLOUR EQUIVALENT
69 CANADA	26,956	11,753	16,102
7.S.	-	1,842	2,523
OTHER	-	2,040	2,795
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	26,956	15,635	48,376
70 CANADA	37,462	2,946	4,036
U.S.	-	302	419
OTHER	-	1,227	1,681
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	37,462	4,475	43,598
71 CANADA	5,000	9,122	71497
U.S.	-	365	500
OTHER	-	2,501	3,426
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	5,000	11,988	21,423
72 CANADA	26,771	24	33
U.S.	-	71	97
OTHER	-	710	973
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	26,771	805	27,874
73 CANADA	4,770	-	-
U.S.	62,501	75	103
OTHER	-	301	412
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	67,271	376	67,786

4. 376 TONS FLOUR FY 73 IS FIRST QUARTER ONLY; WHEAT IS FOR ENTIRE YEAR. FROM ABOVE CLEAR THAT FLOUR NO LONGER OF ANY TRADE SIGNIFICANCE AND PATTERNS OF COMMERCIAL WHEAT TRADE UNDERGOING DRASTIC REALIGNMENT. IN FY 73 ONLY 12,700 MT PL 480 WHEAT IMPORTED, RESIDUAL OF LAST AGREEMENT NOW COMPLETED. AS ANNUAL TOTAL GHANA WHEAT REQUIREMENTS APPROXIMATELY 135,000 TONS AND AS CANADA PLANS GRANT APPROXIMATELY 47,000 TONS, APPEARS POTENTIAL MARKET FOR COMMERCIAL SALES APPROACHING 90,000 TONS. COMMERCIAL UNCLASSIFIED

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IMPORT PATTERNS OF LAST FEW YEARS OF LITTLE HELP IN PREDICTING BREAKDOWN OF SOURCES OF PURCHASES BUT U.S. AND CANADA LIKELY SHARE MARKET IN PROPORTIONS RELATED RELATIVE PRICE AND AVAILABILITY INCLUDING SEASON CLOSING ST. LAWRENCE AS IT AFFECTS ACCESSIBILITY CANADIAN SOURCE.

5. AN IMPORTER WHO PURCHASED 40,500 MT OF GHANA COMMERCIAL IMPORTS IN FY 73 FROM U.S. HAS IMPORT LICENSE FOR \$8.7 MILLION

WHEAT FOR DELIVERY HERE EARLY NOVEMBER FOR WHICH HE INDICATES
WILL SEEK PURCHASE IN U.S. ASSUME THIS MERELY REFLECTS PRUDENT
ACTION GOG LICENSING AUTHORITIES PROVIDE FOR NEEDED IMPORTS ON
ASSUMPTION PL 480 MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE MEET ANY PART WHEAT NEEDS
PENDING EXPECTED NEW 1974 CANADIAN GRANT.

6. GHANA HAS HAD GREAT PROBLEMS IN PAST MEETING UMR OF 43,000
TONS; DID SO IN FY 73 AT CONSIDERABLE EXPENSE TO AVAILABILITY
FOREIGN EXCHANGE FOR OTHER URGENT NEEDS. WITH EXPECTED SETTLE
MENT OTHER RELATED ISSUE AND PROBLEMS POSSIBILITY MAY
OPEN FOR NEW PL 480. AS CONTRIBUTION TO MEETING DEVELOP-
MENT RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS SUGGEST CONSULT WITH CANADIANS RE
WILLINGNESS REDUCE UMR TO 30-35,000 TONS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE149394
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ARIMAS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973074/aaaaacxq.tel
Line Count: 131
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 STATE 122804, STATE 128067
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: collinp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Dec-2001 by thomasv0>; APPROVED <13 FEB 2002 by collinp0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GHANA'S WHEAT IMPORT STATISTICS
TAGS: EAID, GH
To: OTTAWA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005